

and repeatedly decrementing a fourth set leader value by one, or incrementing the fourth value by three.

25. (Original) The interleaver as in claim 18, wherein the values generated by the means for generating set leader values are given by:

Index Set	Leader 1	Leader 2	Leader 3	Leader 4
1	0	13	24	37
2	1	12	25	36
3	2	15	26	39
4	3	14	27	38
5	4	17	28	41
6	5	16	29	40
7	6	19	30	43
8	7	18	31	42
9	8	21	32	45
10	9	20	33	44
11	10	23	34	47
12	11	22	35	46

REMARKS

A. The Allowed Subject Matter

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that the subject matter of claims 2, 3, 7-9, 19 and 23-25 would be allowable if placed into independent form. Accordingly, Applicants have placed the subject matter of claim 2 into claims 1 and 10 and that of claim 19 into claim 18.

B. The Section 112 Rejection

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, the Examiner stating the claim is a “single means” claim. Though the Applicants disagree and respectfully reserve their right to traverse this rejection in the future if need be, the Applicants note that the revisions to claim 10 makes this rejection moot.

C. The Section 102 Rejections

Claims 1, 4-6, 18 and 20-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Divsalar et. al., U.S. Patent No. 6,023,783 (“Divsalar”). Applicants disagree and traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Applicants submit that the revisions to these claims render the rejections moot in light of the Examiner’s acknowledgements in the Office Action that the subject matter of claims 2 and 19 is allowable when placed into independent form (as the Applicants have done).

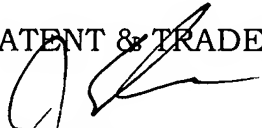
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1, 4-6, 18 and 20-22.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John E. Curtin at the telephone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3777 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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